

Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 20-24, presented hereby, are pending.

Claims 15-19 are cancelled, hereby, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claim 20 corresponds to claim 15, amended to include a Markush group disclosed in the present specification (page 13, line 13, through page 14, line 34) for the recited moiety "CO₂R₃" and, further, to delete "thiocarboxyl" from the Markush group representing the "substituents" on recited variables "X and Y."

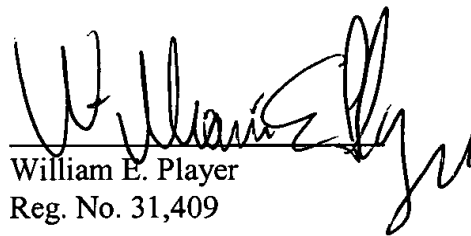
Claims 21-24 correspond to claims 16-19, respectively, amended to be dependent on present claim 20.

Favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: December 29, 2003
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